

**PATENT****REMARKS**

Claims 3-7, 12-15, 17-20, 22-28 and 31-40 remain pending. Claims 1, 2, 8-11, 16, 21 and 29-30 have been canceled.

**Allowed Claims**

The indication that claims 3-7, 12-16, 17-20, 22-28 and 31-40 are allowed or otherwise allowable if rewritten in independent form is appreciatively noted. In the interest of reducing the issues under consideration and expediting passage to grant, Applicant has amended claims 3-6 and 12-15 to place them in allowable form. Claim 7 depends from a now-allowed claim is therefore also allowable. Claim 16 has been canceled to reduce the number of independent claims. Remaining claims 17-20, 22-28 and 31-40 are all indicated as allowed.

**Rejection of Claims 1, 2, 8, 10 and 11**

The rejection has been mooted by the cancellation of these claims.

**REQUEST FOR ALLOWANCE**

In view of the foregoing, Applicant submits that all pending claims in the application are patentable. Accordingly, reconsideration and allowance of this application are earnestly solicited. Should any issues remain unresolved, the Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned at the number provided below.

Respectfully submitted,

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